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MARY OF NIMMEGEN

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WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

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AND

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MARY OF NIMMEGEN

INTRODUCTION

MARY OF NIMMEGEN, who sells her soul to the devil for the transitory joys of this world, is a female prototype of Faust and Tannhäuser, a reincarnation of Beatrice, the runaway nun who, after wandering seven years with her paramour and living another seven as a public woman, returned, a repentant sinner, to her convent.

Two early versions of the story are extant, one in Dutch and one in English. The Dutch version is a miracle play in verse, with interspersed passages of prose, which appeared from the press of Willem Vorsterman of Antwerp, who was admitted as a member of St. Luke's Guild in 1512 and remained at work in that city until 1543. There were three later printings: by Herman van Borculo of Utrecht, 1608, by Pauwels Stroobant of Antwerp, 1615, and another of the same year with Stroobant's name on the title-page, probably piratically issued. The text of the Dutch play with a description of the editions may be found in P. Leendertz, Jr., *Middelnederlandsche Dramatische Poezie* (Leiden, 1907), pp. 277-328, and an English translation of it by Harry Morgan Ayres with an introduction by Adriaan J. Barnouw, in *A Marvelous History of Mary of Nimmegen* (The Hague, 1924).

Nothing is known about the author of the little Dutch drama. He was probably a member of the Antwerp Chamber of Rhetoric *De Violieren*, to whose device, "Uyt ionsten versaemt" ["brought together by love"], the poet seems to allude three times. The Chambers of Rhetoric were a kind of medieval theater guild where the local poets and poetasters imbibed the love of poetry with their beer. In *A Marvelous History* the poet hit upon a plot that proved to be popular, as shown by the number of subsequent editions. Although the printers called it a story and evidently offered it to the reading public as a moral tale, it was genuinely a miracle play and

has been frequently staged in Holland during the last thirty years. It affords an early, if not the earliest, instance of the effective introduction of the play within the play.

The English version is a prose tale from the press of Jan van Doesborgh, also of Antwerp. In the late fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries more English books were printed abroad than in England. So little printing was done in England that in 1485 no Printer to the King was appointed by Henry VII, but only a Stationer to the King; and the appointee was a foreigner called Peter Actoris, a native of Savoy. The large majority of books for the English market were imported from France and the Netherlands. Foreign printers received encouragement from an act of 1484 for the regulation and restriction of the conditions under which foreigners carried on business or trade in England, thanks to a proviso which exempted all foreign importers and retailers of books. A list of these foreign printers and booksellers may be found in *A Century of the English Book Trade*, by E. Gordon Duff (London, 1905).

Among the first who printed English books abroad were Raynaldus de Novimagio (i. e., of Nimmegen), who had a printing house at Venice; Egidius van der Heerstraten at Louvain; and Gerard Leeu at Antwerp. Their number increased rapidly in the first two decades of the sixteenth century. Several kept shops in London. Jan van Doesborgh was apparently one of these, for there is an entry in the Subsidy Rolls of 1523-24, under the Parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, "De Johanne van Dwysborow, extraneo, pro xl. s. per annum, ii. s." Robert Proctor furnishes a bibliography and the few known facts of his life in *Jan van Doesborgh, Printer at Antwerp, an Essay in Bibliography*, Illustrated Monographs, No. II (London: Printed for the Bibliographical Society, 1894), pp. 28-31. He was active from 1505 to 1530 and possibly for a decade longer. Among the books that he printed are, to give them short titles, *A Gest of Robyn Hode*, *The Lyfe of Virgilius*, *Tyll Howleglass*, *Of the New Landes* (including a voyage to America in 1496), *The Wonderfull Shape* (a bestiary), and *The Parson of Kalenborowe*. No less than these, the

tale of *Mary of Nemmegen* was directed at a reading public seeking entertainment not unmixed with edification.

Nothing more is known of the first English translator than of the Dutch dramatist. It has been suggested (Quaritch Catalogue, No. 384, April, 1924, Lot No. 682) that he was "Laurence Andrewe . . . who is known to have worked in . . . [that] capacity for J. van Doesborgh, and in a preface to his own edition of Bruynswyke's *Book of Distyllacion* (1527) he refers to himself as having made 'dyvers and sondry small volumes and tryfeles of myrth and pastaunce som newly composed, some translated and of late finished. . . .' In any case it seems certain from the English employed that the translator must have been an Englishman, as was also in all probability the compositor."

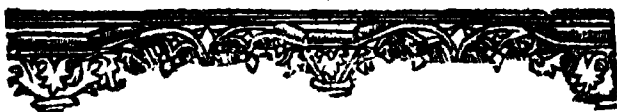
Both the English and the Dutch versions are undated, but from the type and printing devices used both are assigned to 1518-19. Hence a question has arisen as to the priority of the two versions. Some scholars regard the English version as an adaptation of the Dutch play, and others claim that both are based upon a now lost Dutch prose original. This problem has been discussed by Miss M. E. Kronenberg, *Het Mirakelspel van Mariken van Nieumeghen en het Engelsche Volksboek, De Nieuwe Taalgids* (1929), pp. 24-25, and by A. J. Barnouw, in *The Germanic Review*, VI (No. 1; January, 1931), 69-84.

The interest aroused by this problem suggested the desirability of reproducing the Huntington Library copy. The early history of this copy, from its first appearance in the sale of James West's library, in 1773, until it eventually passed into the possession of Mr. Christie-Miller, may be found in Proctor's bibliography (pp. 28-31). Mr. Huntington acquired the little book from Quaritch in 1924. It is the only known version in English and the only extant version in prose. Its very existence, moreover, creates the important problem outlined above. For these reasons this hitherto inaccessible work is now made available.

HARRY MORGAN AYRES
ADRIAAN J. BARNOUW

Here beganne a tale of a man that was of a
traverse done in the land of Helber of a man
de that was named Jarry of Helber of a man
the prince paramour by the space of an. pore
longe.





In the tyme when Duke Wrent was taken
of his sone Adolfe and his hoste the same tyme
we dwelled in the lande of gelders. iij. myle fro
Mēmegen a deuoute pepse called Sprghysp.
he and he had a ponge mayde dwellinge with
hym that was his colē that was named marp/
and this Marp dōd all þe was to do i hyr vnder

house. It befell on a tyme that the ghylf berche
sent marp to stemmengen to the merket to bye
that he neded and sayde the dayes be shoete if it
be late or ye haue done abyde with your auntes
at stemmengen spster for it is pils for a mayd
for to goo alone in the nyght/ than departed ma
rp to stemmengen then when she was come the
re she went a bouce byr buspnes/ It fortunyd þ
same day that byr auntes had chyd apen. iiii. or
v. women for the duke of gelders sake Adolfe þ
had rane his fader/ that they all serned madde &
serned more to be dyspyles then womē. For ma
rps auntes byrde on the ponge dukes party and
afterwarde Murdred byr selfe when that she
knewe that the olde duke was conueyed out of
pylso by þ sapler therof as more plainly here
after foloweth.

Howe marp cam to byr auntes and howe byr
auntes spoke to byr knapply and angerly.

When that marp had bought al thynges
it was very late/ than thought she for to
tarp all nyght there/ Then wente she vnto byr
Auntes and praded byr that she myght haue a
bed there for þ nyght/ Than answered byr aun
te angerly what haue ye here to do to tary all
nyght here/ wherfore goo ye nat home agayne

than sayd / Marp my vnhyll sende me vnto the
merket to bye that beneedynd nowe synthe
I goe home buttis verp late and often tymes
by nyght is a mayde slippyd and tane xraupf
thed xthet for am I afrayde to goe home than
sayd hyr / Munte alas potes mayde pe nede nas so
fere that for pe knowe well anough the howe that
pe shulde lpe and pe hane bene at the tanneries
dronke so muche that pe be dröhe for I knowe
well that the ponge men of vylages can seche
mayden the nyght dauntes in the come when
that it is hye and that hane pe well proued for
in your vylage dwell manpe ponge fellows
thā sayd / Marp a good aunte wherfore saye pe
so / Than sayde hyr / Munte a dobell tonge it wyl
nat tell the trowth but I knowe well that pe ha
ue daūsed manp a daunse where there was no
myndrell / and pe be a mayde spyl to your belly
were great / than sayd marp whp caste pe me i
the tethe good aunte wylch luche thpnges and I
am therof gyltlesse but I pray you aūte shoue
vnto me it I shall haue a bed here for to nyght
thā sayd the aunte nap I had leuer that pe lap i
the rpuer than in my howse / when marp harde
hyr aunte saye so she departed from hyr with a
heup harte.



¶ Howe Mary departed fro hyr Nunc.

He Mary had these answeres of hyr Nunc.
 He she departed fro hyr with a heavy harte
 out of the towne of Mennegen in þe Evening
 and at the laste she wene so longe tyl she cam to
 a churchegge where þe sacriste downe we-
 pped and gounge hyr selfe vnto the doore &
 said wo be to the mynante this maye I thanke
 N.ij.

che for nomet care I nat whether that I kyll my
seife or whether that I goo to drowne me and
I care nat whether y dyest or god come to me
and helpe me I hare nat whether of them two
I be.



Then the diuell said vnto mary
when she was in the bery.

..4..

..4..

..4..

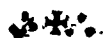
The diuell that is at all times redde for to
haue after dampned soules herping, the
se wordes of marie turned hym into y lehenes
of a mā but he had but one pce for the diuell cā
never turne hym in the y lehenes of a man / but
he haue some sance and than sayd he to his sel
fe nowe wylt I goo singe my wordes for to spe
ke vnto this mayde that I desplease hys not for
men muste speke sweetly to women and so the
diuell sayd he to mary **O** fayer mayde why
stytte thou here thus weeping hath there any mā
that hath displeased pou or done pou wronge
If that I knowe hym I shoulde be a wroghte an
hym than marie herpage his vopce toke and be
se hym and sawe a mā stande by hym wherof she
was a frapde and sayde helpe god I am wro
ged / the diuell sayd vnto Mary fayer mayde be
styt a frapde for I wyl nat do vnto pou no ma
ner of harme but doo pou good for pour fayer
nes men muste loue pou and if that pe wylt con
sent vnto me I shall make pou a womā aboue
all other women for I haue more loue vnto pou
than I haue to any other womā noweluping

than sayde marp. **I**f her halfe mad in dis-
paper. **I**steat nat whether that **I** goue my selfe
to god or to the dnyll so that **I** were out of this
thraldome and mysarpe but **I** pray pou shewe
vnto me who that pe be. **T**he dnyll answered
to hye. **I** am a master of many scyences for that
I take on me to do **I** bypnyge it vnto a ende and
if that pe wylt be my paramour **I** shall teche re-
pon all the forsayde scyences so that there is no
woman in **y** worlde shall passe pou. **T**han sayd
marp to **y** dnyll **I** praye pou shewe vnto me
what pe be and what your name is. **T**han sayd
the dnyll. **W**han reketh pou what **I** be. **I** am
the best of my kynne and pe wylt nat be dis-
pleased my name is **S**atan with the one pee. **y**
is well knowe amonge good felowes. **T**han sayd
marp nowe persepue **I** well that pe be the dy-
aill that is al one who **I** be for **I** here vnto pou
good loue. **T**han sayd marp **I** wold nat be a fraye
of hym if **y** it were susper hym selfe. **T**han sayde
he vnto her. **F**are marp. **W**ylt pe be
my loue **I** shall teche vnto pou al the scyences a-
fore sayde and **I** shall goue vnto pou manpe
other costely ieweltes and also money at poure
pleasure so that pe shall lache no thyng at all. **y**
pou shall haue all your owne pleasure to do that
thyng that pe wylt desyre so **y** there is no wo-
man that haue the pleasure that pe shall haue.

than sayde marpe to the dyppellor that pe lpe w
mepe shall teche to meche for sayde lpe aces/ tha
sayde the dyppellor I am contente aſke what that
pe wyl and pe ſhall haue it/ than sayde marp I
wyl haue nngromary for one/ for I haue a w
lyll ſpac haſpe a boke therof. and when that he
lyſte he wyl lpynde the ſpnde therof. than ſayd
the dyppellor ſaper mayde what pe deſprepe ſhal
haue but I couny nat that ſpence my ſelfe for
it is ſo dangerous for when that pe begyn for
to counge and if pe myſſe one letter in redpyge
the geſte that pe call for wyl beke powneche/
and therefore I counſayll you nat to lerne þ ſpē
to/ Than ſayd Mary if that ic be ſo that ſpence
wyl I nat lerne/ than was the dyppellor glad and
ſayde to his ſelfe nowe haue I turned hy myn
de fro þ ſpence for if that ſhe culde nngromary
then whē ſhe were angry with me then wolde
ſhe lpynde me therwith/ than ſayd the dyppellor to
marp I ſhall teche to pou all the ſpences afore
ſayde and po ſhall ſpeke all maner of langages
that pe wyl deſpre wherwith pe ſhulde be exat
ed. tha ſayd marp nowe put I away al ſorowe
thorowght your wordes and put me all hole to
pour wyl/ Than ſayde þ dyppellor ſaper mayd
I deſprepe of one thyng that pe wyl chaunge
your name/ for I lone not to here that name for
lyp one marp I I all my ſelafſhypp ſare the worſe

and therfore shall I neuer loue that name / and
if that pe wylt chonse pour name I shall make
pou a woman aboue all women and chole pou
whether that pe wylt be called / epkym / methen
or greteyn Than sayde mary vnto the dyuell
what greneyth pour my name for mary smyth
of maria the sweteſte name that can be / and for
all the good in the worlde wolde nat I chaunge
my name nor be called other than mary For of
maria was our lord borne whē the dyuell har
de hyr speke in that manere than sayde he to his
selfe nowe is all my labour loste and caste vn-
der þe fote for I can nat chaunge hyr name / thā
sayde he to mary my swete loue if that we two
shulde goe to gyther pe muste chaunge poure
name & also what so euer pe here or se pe muste
say no thynge or elles we two muste nedes de-
ceyte Thā sayd Mary to kepe pour counsaill I am
content but for to chaunge my name I wylt ne-
uer whyle I lyue for maria is all my cumforde
and helpe in all my nede & also I serue hyr day-
ly with a prayer that I shold lerne in my yongth
and therwō wylt I serue hyr as longe as I lyue
thowghe that I am here nowe in the wyldes fol-
de spryngge here cumfordslesse Than sayde þe dy-
uell to mary whyle þe be set help on þe name I
desyre and I am content that pe holde the spelle
letter of pour name that is. M. and pe shall be

called Emmebyn for there be manye women &
 mapdens in your Lande that be called so Than
 sayde mary vnto Satan if that ye wyl nat be
 contente with my name / yet for all that wyl
 nat we two departe for I am comēt to be called
 Emmebyn yet were I verp loth do it / The was
 the dyuell glad in his mynde that she had forsa-
 ke hys name and sayde / good loue let vs goo to
 the regēt boshe and from thense we wyl goo to
 Anwarpe and or that ye come there ye shall ha-
 ue lerned all maner of langages & also the .viij.
 free scēces And also if that ye wyl abyde with
 me any tyme ye shall see that we two wyl wor-
 ke meruayles & ye shal drinke no other drinke
 but wyne bothe musheadell / bastard / romney /
 & all maner of other wynes at your owne wyl
 and when that Satan had spoke these wordes /
 than was Emmebyn harte glad and she aro-
 se and went with the dyuell to the regen boshe
 warde & when they were come there they toke
 theyr pyne and abode there a great whyle / and
 made good chere with reuelynge and daunsyn-
 ge and payde for heuerp man that cam in theyr
 company that eate and dranke with them and
 wolde nat let them spende a halfe pennyp.



Come wpli we leere of Ennuchpman and
and speke we of hys unkyll for goddys sake.

As Mary that now is called Ennuchpman
was so longe ouer-seam nas houn to hys
unkyll he meruayled greaulye where that she
was become than sayde here his suster I had hys
if that it were late or she had done that she shuld
abode with hys aunte in Hemmegen and slepe
there all nyght but I wpli goo for I were so
ry that she shulde myscarpe nowe spyes I haue
broughte hys up of a chylde but ponge women
be anone entreated than wente she gresserthe
to Hemmegen to his sisters howse and whan
that he was there he asked for Mary his coler
his suster answered hym knappthe she I woe
were were she is / Than sayde hys broder suster
pe moche is me than sayde his suster it is more
than .x. dayes ago she cam home with a deon
ken face and prayed that she myght haue a bed
that nyght and I had hys that she shuld goo to
the place where that she had drounken all day
before / And by cause I sayde those wordes she
canne out of the doores I woe nere where Than
sayde the unkyll alas where is that mayde be
come / Than sayde his suster at the wyne rauer
he there shall pe fynde hys depnyng is good fe
lowes / Than sayde the pryeste alas suster pe ma

he my harte cōde to here those wordes that pou
 speke his suster sayde if that she hath be troched
 she shall be the elpar for a nother & she shall ne-
 uer hake therof / Than wente the pyssle fro his
 suster wth a heuue harte when that he hadde hym
 speke in that manere & cōde here no tpynges
 of Mary his colerne.



¶ Howe Marps aunte cutt hys owne throte.

And in þe meane tyme dyd the Tapler that hepte the prysō that the olde duke was in let hym out of prysō and they fled bothe to the towne of shertegē bolthe where that they were honorabely receyued of the lordes of the same towne and great ioye was made for his deliuerance with great trumpes that coulde be made / within a whyle. And whē he cam vnto marps aunte howe that the olde Duke was deliuered out of prysō was in the towne of shertegen bolthe / this herpynge marps aunte was verp angerp therwith and she was so angerp therwith that she swelled that she had almoste burst and she cared she nat what she had done to hys selfe and than the dyuell that is at all tymes redde temped hym to cutt hys owne throte and at the laste he cōped hym so muche þat hys anger she toke a knyfe and cutt hys owne throte / Than was the dyuell glad and toke the soule and bare it to hell to ever lastynge payne.

¶ Howe Emmelhynd and Satan departed to þe towne of Anwarpe.

Whan Emmekyn and Datan had dined
led a good chyle in ftertege bolthe that
is a faper towne/then departed they fro thense
and went towarde Anwarpe to gyder / & when
they were at Anwarpe thā sayd Datan to Em
mekyn nowe be we come to Anwarpe nowe let
vs goo to the golde tre on the market place and
there wylt we reuel and plape and spare for no
coste and for a pot of Rommepe there shall we see
never thy ptes that speke thes fryndes goodes
that bene deed and also there shall we see the syn
gult women that they kepe and also there shall
we see braggers & bolster & pychers of quarels
and also theues and farers for monepe. and also
we spt the Surgeses of the towne that had leuer
take monep than for to geue monep Thā sayde
Emmekyn good Datan let vs goo thyder and
see that pastyme for that is the thynge that I re
ioyre moste in and loue beste to see Than sayde
Datan to Emmeken with a good wyl/chan be
parted they to the golden tre and whē that they
were come then sat they downe and called for a
pot of wyne thā sa there. ij. fellowes & a nother
fere ther by that sawe Emmekyn spt by Datan
than sayde the one to the other / se what a faper
woman sptt he ouer ageynste vs with a pong
fellowe that hath but one pee I merueyll what
great fangal this fape mayde hath vnto hym

the wylde gooste take our pot and goe for by hym/
and also take hym fro hym that arose the benches
wylde men and came and sat downe by Satan to
the one pee and sayd to hym by your leue may
we for by you/Than sayd satan to the with a good
wylde we be welcome take the pot and drinke
with us I praye you/Than answered the ben-
ches wylde men we shalke you hartely we haue of
our owne than as they were set and talked/than
sayde Emmekyn my loue Satan were it not
gymet to the that I shuld tell howe many droppes
of wyne were in the pot/whā the benches wylde
men harde hym saye so they sayde to hym that we
re a thyng impossible & a thyng to meruaile
of greatly/Than sayd satan to the benches wylde
men she can do it welle and greater thynges than
that is for she can the .viij. free scyences I durste
let hym styp for to dispute with the beste docture
in all Darps or Touen/Than sayde the benches
wylde men to Satan I praye the good fellowe if
thou wyldest desire hym for to do that wonderly scy-
ence that we may see hym doo it / and eche of vs
shall geue vnto you a pot of wyne before & mo-
reouer if there be any man that wyldest say the co-
ntraire we wyldest be auenged on them/Than sayde
Satan to the fellowes say ye that than shall she
do it before you and than sayd he to Emmekyn
Emmekyn my loue ye muste shewe vnto these

good fellows: howe many shipes of wyne be i
the port as yet and promysed the hys to be yether
day and they wyllyng to wnter for yow: I g.
dence. this ladye Emmechyn wylle that I must
nede theme wnter you that hope of iennorpe
than mynne ye all hope in yow: a speche more/
for rethorpe myll be harde: and as Emmechyn
had spoke these wordes: a chas was back and i
the countre there cam many folkes for to see: so
knowe whether that she culde do it or not: whe
that Saran sawe that there w're many men
gathered for to see: he than thowght he shoulde
be good: a litle sonne of hym to gother by the way
so that one of them myght tell another: than se
ped he two or. iij. to mynne: they selfe to gother
by the cress: so that there was one floure and he
that had doite shoulde was came and also beheld
wherof Saran greatly reioised and was glad
and sayde to hym selfe: this is well practised of
me for there is now. ij. deed: and in this maner
dwelled Saran and Emmechyn at the guldene
ire at Antwarpe beinge in the merket place and
made reuel and mynne rule longe tyme: so that
thorowghe the opuell temptacon there were
many men floure for Emmechyns sake wherin
the opuell reioised and was glad and sayd this
is a very good lodgng for me: I culde nat haue
founde a better in all Antwarpe than this is for
S. iij.

nowe shall I worke many wonders if that we
 abyde here a while longer for by me shall be a
 great many soules brought into hell and I shall
 make many a one for to lete his lyfe throughte
 my temptacion of them & therefore were I lothe
 for to depaſſe fro this dwelling for there be ma-
 ny that I may take in my snare as men may ca-
 ke a wyde that cannaſt ſpye and here shall I ſyn-
 de ſuche at all tymes in this howſe / and I myll
 goo to my hoſte and by my borde of hym by the
 moneth as longe as I tarre here / and than shall
 I be redde at all tymes for to make chydunge &
 beawpunge and let them to gythe by the eres /
 and make one ſpyche another for or to be a pere
 paſte I shall make me a phyſician or a ſothe ſay-
 er ſo that þ people shall come and ſeke to me for
 counſaile & by that maner shall I bringe more
 than a thowſande ſoules into hell if that I am
 nat let my mayſter Ihu.

•✠•

••(•✠•)••

•✠•

¶ Howe Emmekyn by ſpynfull ſpynge a lyt-
 tell complayned.

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A S Emmelyn had dwelled at Murewepe
a good while she began to marke þe ly-
ned unpryncely & synfully and for hyr sake that
manymen were murdered by the dyuyl fals-
hed and lapde & it forthpynche me myr synfull
lyuynge and so for sake the iopes of heuen and
goode myghtman to ouerlastynge penytoun /
nowe persente I well that this Saten that is
here w me is the dyuyl though he that he wolde
neuer tell it unto me . O Munte pour spytfull
wordes that ye sayd unto me hath caused me
I shall be utterly dāpted in the pte of helle and
if that nowe I shulde turne / I am afrayde that
I haue come to ferre and also I was wille to
to shyp our lady dayly with a prayer & nowe
I haue nat done it of longer tyme / and for a myll
nat also suffer me also that I shulde do it & ther-
fore may I se well that he is þe dyuyl and nowe
is it to late for me to take repentance / and nowe
myll I let all myrnes goo and make good shere
for pender I see cum in the felashyp that pro-
mpled me pester day to make good there & whe-
they were come than wen Emmelyn and satā
and sat downe by them and made good there &
had forget all hyr hetynes & at the laste the fell
at wordes with other men so that one of the fel-
lomes had stryked a man / and when that was
done sayde Satā to the fellowe that they two

wolde goo without the towne and forþer ypp
 and as they were without the towne the dyuell
 spied a man compagne than sayde the dyuell to
 þe fellowe never cometh a mā so muche money
 let us hylt hym and take the money fro hym &
 the dyuell remped hym so muche that he consen-
 ted and when the man was come / The fellowe
 toke a dagger and spied hym to her of the dyuell
 was glad and departed.



Howe Emmekyn wolde goo see hys fryndes
in the lande of Gelder.

Ho Satan and Emmekyn had dwelled in
Antwarpe by the space of. vi. pere at the sp
ne of the gylden tre where that muche mysche
fe and mallowter was done thorough the
So on a tyme longed Emmekyn for to see hys
vnknyll and other knyssfolke y she had in the lan
de of Gelder/ than despyed she Satan y he wold
goo w hys to the lande of Gelder for to se home y
my vnknyll and my aunty that knowe nat whe
re that I am. become for I knowe for a serten
that my vnknyll taketh great thowghy for me for
he loued me euer well and he hath wept for my
lake many a tere/ Than layde Satan to his sel
fe this polle thome pepse that prayeth a praper
to the woman y is all in whyte plece the me at
all tyme that I may nat haue my purpose for
it were nat for his praper that he sayeth I had
of this tyme other a broke hys arme/ or a legger
or els hys necke/ Than sayd Emmekyn Satan
what saye pou to pour selfe in that maner/ than
sayd Satā vnto hys I say no other thyng but
as pe wylt so am I contente to goo/ than payed
Satan the hoste all theyr costes so that the hoste
was well content and thanked them hartely of
theyr good payment than toke Satan leue and

departed to Hemmegg in the lade of Gelders/
and when they were come to Hemmegg it for
ruined on the same that it was the dilpcacon of
a chpr:che/ when they were within the Towne
than sayde Emmekpn to Haran let vs goo see
howe my aunte dothe/ than sayde Haran pe ne
de nat to go to hpr: for she is deed more than a ve
re a goo/ than sayd Emmekpn is it trewth/ thā
sayd satan pe/ than sayd Emmekpn to þ dpuell
what do all pender folkes þ be pender gathered
than sayde the dpuell the plap a plap þ is wont
euery pereto be played/ than sayde Emmekpn
good loue let vs goo here it for I haue harde my
vnkplf say often tymes that a plap were better
than a sermant to some folke/ than sayde the dpuell
to Emmekpn what hpe pe on me to see the
plap let vs goo to the Tauerne and make good
there/ thā sayd Emmekpn good satan let vs go
here it/ than sayde Haran wple that pe wolde so
sayne here it go thpder and here it but carry no
lenger than I shall call you/ than went Emme-
kpn and harde the plape and the plape was of
synfull lypunge and there she sawe hpr: lypung
played be fore hpr: face than she began to besorpe
and take repentance/ than called the dpuell hpr:
for he wolde haue hpr: here it nat oute/ But she
wolde nat come/ for by the plap she was all hole
turned fro hpr: myste lypunge & sayde . O good

lorde haue mercy on me pore wretch a sinner:
I am nat wordy to trede vpon the erthe and I
am a scapde þ I haue conne to ferre: / than sayde
the dyuyl to his selfe all my labour is losse the
taketh vnto hye hole repentance and sayd vnto
Emmekyn what ayle pe nowe be pe mad / let
be your weppynge and sorowe and let vs goo to
the tauerne and make good there I put a waye
your sorowe / than sayde Emmekyn go fro me
thou fals fynde woo be to the that euer thou cā
to me and I repent me that euer I chose the for
my paramour for by þ I am vtterly dampned
wythout the more mercy of god / than arose the
dyuyl fro the growne and sayde holde your pe
ace and be styll or elles I shall bere the with me
to enerlastynge payne / Than sayd Emmekyn
A good lorde haue mercy on me / and defende
me from the handes of the dyuyl that he do to
me no harme. Than sayde the dyuyl vnto hye
I see it wyl be no better thā toke he Emmekyn
in his clames I carped hye vp into þ aper more
hugher than ony steppt that hye vntyll and al
the people meruayled therat / howe it cam that
she was carped so sodenly vppe.





Howe Satan toke Emmekyn and bore hyr
 up into the aper and caste hyr downe and howe
 that hyr unkyll sawe it.

How Satan the Dypyl had boene Emme-
 kyn up into the aper than caste he hyr fro
 thense downe weynng to haue broke hyr necke
 but god and our Lady wolde nat suffer it / & she
 fell in the strete before all þe people wherof the

with the people: were there a bushed & a frayde
 and also there was the. Unkyl that harde the
 same playe that sa: we hpe also fall but helme we
 nat that it was his souln than weir þ people
 to hpe: as sa the unkyl: myght: a fapage ff þ hpe
 ne the were nat broke: than I am a burgeys of þ
 towne to þ: ghyltþe the and asked hym if that
 he wol begoo and see whether that the had bro-
 ke hpe: ne the or no and he sayd with a good wyl
 than went the burgeys and he to Eimundþn
 & when they were to the then asked þ burgeys
 if the had nat broke hpe: so the and they sayd so no
 than sayd þ: ghyltþe the that is a great mer-
 uaple let me come see hpe: & the went hpe: unkyl
 to hpe: and when that he sawe hpe: he sayd alas
 it is my cosynne I haue brought hpe: by the spa-
 re of. vñ. yere longe and neuer cilde fynde hpe:/
 and as Eimundþn had layne a good space in a
 fownde: than began the a lttell to come to hpe
 selfe and than harde the hpe: unkyl speke to hpe
 whiche the knewe well by the vopre and sayde/
 O unkyl what is me be fall/ where haue I be &
 where am I nowr/ O good lord I pray þ haue
 mercp on me that I may be saued and come to
 euerlastyng lpe/ for had nat your mercpfulness
 a kepte me here the dyuell had carped me bothe
 body & soule to euerlastyng payne. than sayd
 hpe: unkyl to hpe: a good cosynne howe fortunied

this than sayd Emmeþyn vnþt I wolde that
I were in the same cōseþas I was in whē that
I dwelt w þou but now I am dāpned/hþt vn
þt sayd say nat so good cōseþ for there is no bo
dy losse with out the fall in despayr but I pray
þou shoue vnto me howe that it hapened that
þe were carped so hygh in the aþer as þe were /
than sayde Emmeþyn good vnþt I shall tell
to þou all to gþher/on a tyme as I sat vnder a
hedge whē that I departed fro my Hunte I ga
ue my selfe vnto the dyuel and he cam vnto me
and I went w þym and dwelled with þym this
viij. þere longe and in that tyme haue there ma
ny wonders be done / on a tyme I despyred þym
to gos see þou and when that we were here I de
spred þym that I myght here this play / and by
this play was I cōuerted wherw þ dyuell was
angery and toke me and bare me into the aþer
and caste me downe amonges these folke / than
sayd hþ vnþt was the dyuell with þou good
cōseþne/than sayde Emmeþyn I was at his cō
maundement this. viij. þere/than sayde hþ vn
þt that gest cōmisse we rydde fro þou and se
whether that we can get the mercy of God by
our prayer.

¶ Howe the dyuell spake to syr Shysshriche.



When þe þe daniel harde those wordes he sayd
 þe shalt thou nat haue pore for to do for þe
 wylle whē it please me carape hys body & soule
 to the pyr of hett / than sayde hys unkele that shal
 3 let þe than coungered he hym þe he culde cōpre
 hys nō more than wēt hys unkele to the deard
 and cōplained but Eumekyn sayd she trusted
 to be saued and than wēt he to þe moſte lerned
 of all þe mynnegeu and asked counsaill of them.

by as they haue the spynne ther was none so
 well beried to helpe or deuoute that durste take a
 part thence to aduise hys of them and geue vnto
 hys petuance accordynge to hys spynnes / wher
 of they were ryght heuy / and so depyed Emme
 lyn and hys vntyll a way wiche heuy hartes.



¶ Howe for ghyltberthe and hys vnkyll depar-
red towarde Colapne with Emmechpn ⁊ howe
he tok the holpe sacrament with hym that the
daneill and he haue no pore of them.

..*.*. (:.)✠(:.) ..*.*.

Whan that Emmechpn and hys vnkyll
culde gett no coforde in Remmegen tha
on the morowe dpy for ghyltberthe sponge masse
and when that masse was done than tok he þ
holp sacramente in his hande and bad that his
refpne Emmechpn shalde goo with hym to Co-
lapne for to seke remmedy and Emmechpn sayd
with a good wyll vnkyll I am reddepe / Than de-
parted they both towarde Colapne hys vnkyll
berpnge in his hande the holp sacrament / and
the dyuell folowed them all þ way but he durste
nat come nere them to do them any harme by þ
verru of the holp sacrament / but in the way as
he went he brake trees and caste after them for
to haue broke theyr neche / but our good lord þ
is euer mercypfull / wold nat suffer hym to haue
the power for to do them any harme therewith
for they bothe were woune for to worshyp dpy
our blessed lady with a serapne prayer that
they had lerneð And at þ laste they went so lōge
that they cam vnto Colapne ⁊ when they were

there than went the into the Bpshopp and con-
 fessed hys synne and when that he had harde
 all hys confesyon he was sorow for hys and said
 A good dawghter pour synnes be so greivous
 that I darenat absolue you wherfore I am sorow
 this herpunge hys unhylt toke his leue of the bps
 shop and han departed.



..*.*.

(*.)X(*.)

..*.*.

Howe Emmekyn and hyr unkyll take thei
iourneys to Rome to the Pope for to be absolved
of hyr synnes and howe the dyuell folowed the
for to haue done some harme vnto them.

..*.*.

(*.)X(*.)

..*.*.

After that Emmekyn and hyr unkyll had
bene with the byshop and culde haue no
remedye than departed they fro hym and take
thei iourneys to Rome where that they cam in
shortspace in good auenture And as they were
come / Then went Mary and hyr unkyll to the
Pope when they were come before hym then
kneled they downe / and than desired Emmekyn
the pope for the loue of god that he myght be co
fessed of hym / and he answered with a good wyll
than sat Emmekyn and the pope downe / than
began Emmekyn for to shewe vnto y pope hyr
synnes and sayd / O moste holpelle fader the erthe
bereth nat nowe a more synfuller persone than
I am / than sayde the pope good dawghter why
saypesto tell to me y cause wherfore / Than sayd
Emmekyn O holy fader I haue bene y dyuels
paramoure by the space of .vij. yere / and haue
done all hy puges that he comanded me for to do

The Pope sayde to the pe well that he was the
duell when that he cam vnto pou and spake to
pou than sayde Emmekyn pea well a wonghe
that me fore repenteth / Than sayde the pope to
Emmekyn howe coulde pe consent to hym whp
le that pe knewe for a certence that it was þ̄ du
uell than sayde Emmekyn to the pope & holp
fader the great gysse that he gaue vnto me bo
the of syluer and of gold and also the pleasure þ̄
that I had with hym dancyn borhe in daunsyng
and playyng and had all that I despyed for that
cause vnto I agree vnto hym & also for my sake
hathe there more than. CC. persones be murde
red whych fore repenteth me / than sayd þ̄ Pope
& good dawghter for that thynge mape pe be
ryght heup / than sayde Emmekyn that I am
as heip therfore as any woman mape be and I
despie pou holp fader that pe woll for the loue of
god and our lady / gpyue vnto me penance for
my synnes howe great so euer se be / than sayde
the pope vnto hym alas good dawghter poure
synnes be so greuous that I can nat gpyue to
pou penance nor absolue pou without that god
gpyue vnto me some grace to gpyue me some ma
ner of knowlege & I wyll pray vnto hym ther
fore then kneeled the pope on his knees & prayed
god þ̄ he wolde put in his mynde some penance
that were for his synnes & when he had prayed

a whyle than cam into his mynde a penaunce
 for hye wherof he was glad thā bad he Emme-
 lyn that she shulde call hye vnkylt & than shuld
 he gyue unto hye hye penaunce/ than went Em-
 me lyn to hye vnkylt and bad that he shulde go
 with hye to the pope than wēt hye vnkylt with
 hye unto the pope/ and when that they were co-
 me than sayde þe pope vnto hym/ I wolde be so-
 ry that any man or woman shulde be losse by þe
 faute of me than toke he. iij. pron rygges in his
 hande and sayde take these. iij. great pron ryng-
 ges and make a synthe set them on and þe shal
 put the greaueste about your necke & the other
 two a boute your armes as faste as þe may for
 fallynge of and than let them alone theron tyll
 the tyme that they fall of by theyr selfe & be all
 consumed and when they be consumed and go-
 ne then be your synnes forgiven you and our
 lord hath mercy on you / than sayd hye vnkylt
 to the þope my holpe fader if it please you that
 thyng is a thyng impossible for if that it we-
 re possible for hye for to lyue by þe space of . CC.
 yere yett for all that they shulde nat consume &
 fall of fro hye/ Than sayd the pope vnto hye vn-
 kylt O syr þe mercy or good is great for the may
 pray so muche vnto our lord god þe thorowghe
 hye praper Our lord god may haue mercy on
 hye and take hye to his grace/ And by maracle

cause the prynces for to fall fro hym: And as
the pope had spoke those wordes and had gūē
unto hym this pennaunce than roke they the
leue of the pope and prayed hym that he wolde
pray for hym: and the pope sayde to them that he
wolde with a good wyl but he sayd to hym take
good hede that ye abyde styll in the mynde that
ye be i and thynke stedfastly y^e shall be saued
and fall nat i despayre for all that I haue gūē
you for by your pennāce and by your great cō
tricion may god forgūe you I gūe unto you
euerlastyng blyssē: than thanked Emmekeyn
and hym unkyll the pope and so departed: when
that Emmekeyn had this rynges to hym penaū
te then wente hym unkyll and she to a smythe I
caused hym for to smyte on the rynges. y^e great
reste on hym necke I on eche of hym harmes one
faster than neuer whyle she had lyued shulde ha
ue fallen of but by myracle.



¶ Howe Emmekeyn was a none at Maltreke
of the ordere of saynte Mary magdalene that
returnde fro thei vncouelouspunge.



When that hpr vnhyll had caused the p^{re}l
 rages on than depared he and Emme
 hpn fro home and went so longe t^{ill} that thep
 cam vnto the towne of mastrepe where was a
 nonnerp of honnes of seynt Magdalenes or
 der called conuerted spinners For there be none
 other in the place then thep that haue bene m^{ys}
 se women in whiche place she despyed hpr. Un
 hyll that he wolde Taboure for hpr & she myght
 be shorne in amonge them/and hpr vnhyll an
 swered with a good w^{ill} then spake the vnhyll
 vnto the abbaple of the place and entreated hpr
 that his coseyn myght be shorne in and made a
 none in hpr place and he entreated hpr so much
 that at the laste she agreed then with in. ij. or. iij.
 dayes was she shorne in by the helpe of hpr vn
 hyll/And when it was done than depared hpr
 vnhyll into his owne lande / and lyued after by
 the space of. xxiij. pere and euerpe pere after as
 longe as he lyued he went and sawe his cosapn
 ons in a pere.

Howe a Kungellicam fro heuen and put of
 p^{re}l rages fro Emme hpn.



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✠(✠✠✠)✠

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And Semmekyn was thus shorne into the
 Monke she fasted and prayed so muche/
 that at the laste our lorde had mercy on hys and
 forgave hys all hys synne. And on a tyme as she
 was a prayinge in hys selfe she fell on slepe and
 in hys slepe apered a aungett and undyd y^e prou
 rances fro hys & she thought in hys slepe howe

that she was in hell and howe that there cam a
 Mungell and browghe hie into heuen and that
 there were a great many Doves cā to hie and
 with thei wynges smote off hie pryn spynnes
 and when that she had had that wyngon / than a
 washed hie and laide the rynges hie before hie ⁊
 were vndone / wherof Cunctyn was right
 glad and fell vpon hie knees and thanked god
 that he had shewed vnto hie pore spinner that
 great maraile and had mercy on hie and after
 sayd O althie people take a ensample of me and
 whyle that ye haue lasure ⁊ space do penance
 for your synnes ⁊ amyd your wretched lyping
 whyle ye maye haue lasure for now we maye
 see howe mercifull that god is by be ⁊ therefore
 do penance and pray vnto our blessed lady ⁊
 the man pray for you that ye maye come into
 iop that is without endynge to the which ye lase
 by ynge bothe you and me amen.



¶ The conclusion.

¶ All this in this booke conteyned is for a reweyth
 and if that ye wyll nat beleue me that was the
 first maker of this booke if that it fortune any of
 you for to goo into the Lande of Flandera to a
 towne called Mastryche and goo to the shoppe
 of the conuerced spinners there shall ye see En-
 richmans graue & also yron rynges hanging
 there ouer and under nerthe wyrtten hys lypynge
 geard also hys permasike and the lypued but. h.
 perre after she was deliuered of 5 rynges and
 so departed & went vnto the blyssse euer lasting
 to the whiche blyssse lypinge both you and me. .
¶ **¶** **¶** **¶**

..*.*..

(*)✠(*)

..*.*..

¶ Thus sendeth this luttell treatyse Imprinted
 at Wynwarpe by me John Dunsbrowghe dwel-
 linge besyde the same porte. .





